

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03 SS-20 RSC-01 H-03

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01

SSO-00 NSCE-00 OPR-02 DRC-01 /096 W

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P 240600Z OCT 73

FM AMCONSUL ZANZIBAR

TO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 0961

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT TZ

SUBJECT: MILITARY ALERT IN ZANZIBAR

1. ZANZIBAR SECURITY FORCES AND TPDF HELD REALISTIC MILITARY ALERT EXERCISES LAST NIGHT. I WAS CALLED AT 2130 HOURS LOCAL BY MINISTER OF STATE HASSAN NASSOR MOYO, WHO ADVISED ME THAT MILITARY EXERCISES WOULD TAKE PLACE "BEFORE THE END OF RAMADHAN AND PROBABLY QUITE SOON," AND HIS ADDITIONAL COMMENTS SUGGESTED THIS MEANT DURING NIGHT TO COME.

2. EXERCISE BEGAN AT 0400 LOCAL. DURING EXERCISE ZANZIBARIS EMPLOYED ASSORTED SMALL ARMS, PLUS WHAT SOUNDED LIKE MORTARS AND RECOILLESS RIFLES. WEAPONS FIRE CONTINUED INTERMITTENTLY UNTIL ABOUT 0530, AND BY 0700 ASPECT OF ZANZIBAR TOWN WAS VIRTUALLY NORMAL. ALL U.S. PERSONNEL HAD BEEN ADVISED IN ADVANCE. CONSULATE IS UNAWARE OF ANY DAMAGE TO LIFE OR PROPERTY RESULTING FROM EXERCISE.

3. COMMENT: RUMORS OF IMPENDING EXERCISE WERE APPARENTLY WIDESPREAD HERE THROUGHOUT OCTOBER 23, AND PRESUMABLY FAR FEWER PERSONS WERE CAUGHT OFF GUARD THAN DURING SIMILAR EXERCISE IN NOVEMBER 1971. MOYO'S SOMEWHAT GUARDED COMMENTS ON TELEPHONE LAST NIGHT STRONGLY SUGGESTED CONTINUING ZANZIBAR CONCERN RE

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SECURITY WHICH TYPICALLY PEAKS AT IDD EL FITR BUT WHICH

THIS YEAR MAY BE EXPECTED TO CARRY THROUGH TO 10TH ANNIVERSARY
FESTIVITIES.
MACFARLANE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SECURITY, MILITARY EXERCISES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973ZANZIB00327
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: ZANZIBAR
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731013/aaaaajkl.tel
Line Count: 64
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11-Jan-2002 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <01-Feb-2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MILITARY ALERT IN ZANZIBAR
TAGS: PINT, MARR, TZ
To: n/a
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005